



Opening Doors

Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness :: 2010



Mainstream Programs



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE (FNS)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

- Provides access to healthy food for roughly 34 million people per month. SNAP helps low-income people put healthy food within reach by providing a monthly benefit used to purchase food at the grocery store or farmers' market. Benefits are provided on an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card. Eligibility is based on income, assets, and other factors.

National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program

- Provides balanced and low-cost or free lunches to children each school day. Free and reduced-price lunches are based on each family's income. Students who participate in this program may also have access to afterschool snacks and fresh fruits and vegetables at school. If a family participates in SNAP or WIC, the children also may qualify for free or reduced-price school lunches.

Children who are determined to be homeless, as defined under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act are categorically eligible for free meals.



FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE (FNS)

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National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program

- Newly identified homeless children should be identified and certified for free meals as promptly as possible. To the extent possible, applications should be processed immediately. Homeless children may also be determined eligible through the standard application process.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

- CACFP helps child and adult care providers serve healthy meals and snacks each day as a regular part of their day care. CACFP also serves at-risk children age 18 and under who are residents of emergency shelters or participants in afterschool programs. Age limitations differ for those participants with disabilities.



FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE (FNS)

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEAP)

- Under TEFAP, USDA makes USDA foods available to State Distributing Agencies.
- States provide the food to local agencies, usually food banks, which in turn distribute the food to local organizations, such as community Action Agencies, soup kitchens and food pantries that directly serve the public.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

- Rural America covers nearly 80 percent of the land area of the United States.
- It is home to nearly 50 million nonmetropolitan residents.
- While USDA has no programs targeted solely for those experiencing homelessness, the Department does provide assistance to homeless individuals.
- Rural Development assists the homeless through its housing and community facilities programs, as well as Disaster Assistance provisions. However, the Agency's housing programs do not receive McKinney-Vento Homeless Act funding.
- In 2009, Rural Development assisted rural homeless families by providing funding for 6 Domestic Violence Centers and 3 Food Preparation and Distribution Centers.



RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Community Facilities

- Homeless assistance available in the Community Facilities (CF) program consist of guaranteed loans, direct loans, and grants that are available to nonprofit corporations and public bodies.
- Services funded are food pantries, homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, homes for delinquents, youth centers, and group homes for various special populations, such as the disabled or addicted.
- Assisted living facilities and nursing homes are also eligible for funding through this program. Such facilities may prevent homelessness among those unable to live alone or in need of special services



RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Multi-Family Housing

- While Rural Development does not target funding specifically for homeless populations, occupancy is directed by statute to go first to those with very low income before applicants with low or moderate income may be accepted.
- Homeless individuals or families may apply for occupancy in any of over 15,000 multi-family housing properties located in rural areas across the country.
- Multi-Family Housing (MFH) programs provide more than 430,000 affordable apartments to very low income and low income individuals and families.
- More than half of these apartments receive Rural Development rental assistance. These properties also accept Housing and Urban Development vouchers.
- Almost 59 percent of the affordable apartments provide shelter for elderly and disabled tenants.
- More than 73 percent of all families are headed by single females.



RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Single-Family Housing

- To reduce the cost to the Federal government and increase the efficiency of managing non-program properties, local non-profit groups are encouraged to purchase rather than lease REO properties for use as homeless shelters and related purposes.
- Property purchases, with the aid of Rural Development financing, enable local groups to maintain control of the property, reduce overall costs, and better provide services to homeless rural families.
- When notified by a public body or nonprofit group of its intention to buy the property, Rural Development withdraws the property from the market for 30 days.
- Where necessary, the Agency will make repairs to remove health and safety hazards. In addition, the listed price is reduced by 10 percent and favorable direct financing terms are provided to the group.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Education for Homeless Children and Youth

- The purpose of the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program (allocated through formula grants) is to ensure that homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as other children;
- to provide activities for services to ensure that these children enroll in, attend, and achieve success in school;
- to establish or designate an office in each state educational agency (SEA) for the coordination of education for homeless children and youth;
- to develop and implement programs for school personnel to heighten awareness of specific programs of homeless children and youth; and
- to provide grants to local educational agencies (LEAs).



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Weatherization Assistance Program

- The Weatherization Assistance Program provides funding for states to weatherize low-income dwellings in order to reduce energy costs and to conserve energy.
- Shelter is also an eligible category for these funds, which includes homeless supportive housing.
- By allowing for the weatherization of homeless supportive housing, homeless support agencies can benefit by lowering their energy costs and being able to stretch their already limited funding.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DHHS has more than 300 programs, covering a wide spectrum of activities including:

- Medicare and Medicaid
- Financial assistance and services for low-income families;
- Improving maternal and infant health
- Head Start
- Preventing child abuse and domestic violence
- Mental illness and substance abuse treatment and prevention;
- Medical and social science research;
- Preventing outbreaks of infectious disease, including immunization services; and
- Food and drug safety

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Treatments and services to persons experiencing homelessness are included in the activities of the Department, both in programs specifically targeted to homeless individuals (targeted homeless programs) and in those programs that assist eligible persons in need (mainstream programs).

- More than 90 percent of the total departmental budget is distributed to provide services and benefits to poor, disabled, and underserved persons. These resources constitute a critical safety net in the lives of many people in the U.S. representing a small portion of this funding,

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HHS has a portfolio of six programs specifically targeted to address the service needs of homeless persons:

1. **Health Care for the Homeless** (Health Resources and Services Administration)
2. **Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals** (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
3. **Services in Supportive Housing** (SAMSHA)
4. **Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness** (SAMSHA)
5. **Programs for Runaway and Homeless Youth** (Administration for Children and Families)
6. **Federal Surplus Real Property program.**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Medicaid

- Federally-mandated services include hospital inpatient and outpatient services, comprehensive health screening, diagnostic and treatment services to children, home health care, laboratory and x-ray services, physician services, and nursing home care.
- Commonly offered optional services include prescription drugs, dental care, eyeglasses, prosthetic devices, hearing aids, and services in intermediate care facilities for individuals with a mental illness.
- States may elect to offer an array of home and community-based services to individuals with disabilities, individuals who are aging or individuals with chronic conditions.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- Consolidated Health Centers (CHC), excluding Health Care for the Homeless
- Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant
- Healthy Start (HRSA)
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- Social Services Block Grant
- Community Services Block Grant
- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Emergency Food and Shelter Program

Program funds are used by Local Recipient Organizations to provide as determined by the Local Board in each funded jurisdiction:

- Food, in the form of served meals or groceries;
- Lodging in a mass shelter or hotel;
- One month's rent or mortgage payment;
- One month's utility payment;
- Transportation costs associated with the provision of food or shelter; and
- Supplies and equipment necessary to feed or shelter people, up to a \$300 limit per item.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Homeless Assistance Grants

- HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants include three targeted programs awarded through the annual Continuum of Care competition (Supportive Housing Program, Shelter Plus Care, and Section 8 Mod Rehab) and one program awarded by formula to eligible states, counties, cities, and territories (Emergency Shelter Grants).



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- **Supportive Housing Program**
- The Supportive Housing Program (SHP) is designed to promote the development of housing and supportive services to assist homeless individuals and families in making a successful transition to permanent housing and greater self-determination. SHP provides grants to public entities and nonprofit organizations.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- SHP has six program components/types for which funding may be requested.
- Permanent housing for homeless persons with disabilities. Long-term, community-based supportive housing designed for people with disabilities. Supportive services may be provided by the applicant or through contract with other public or private service providers. Projects generally serve fewer than 16 people.
- Transitional Housing. Supportive housing that facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and/or families to permanent housing within 24 months. Supportive services may be provided by the applicant or through contract with other public or private service providers.
- Supportive Services Only. Supportive services that are provided separate from transitional or permanent housing projects (including case management, housing counseling, employment assistance, etc).

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- Safe Havens. A residence for hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness. Structures funded by this component have the following characteristics: (1) limited to 25 residents; (2) provide 24-hour access for an unspecified duration; (3) offer private or semi-private sleeping accommodations; (4) may provide common kitchens, dining rooms, and bath rooms; and (5) may provide drop-in services to eligible people who are not residents.
- Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). An HMIS is a data-collections software system designed to capture information over time on the characteristics of persons experiencing homelessness and being housed and/or serviced by programs within a CoC as well as projects not funded by the McKinney-Vento Act.
- Innovative Supportive Housing. This component enables the applicant to design a program outside the scope of the other components. It must demonstrate it represents a distinctly different approach when viewed within its geographic area, and be able to be replicated elsewhere.

USE OF FEDERAL REAL PROPERTY TO ASSIST THE HOMELESS- *HUD, HHS AND GSA*

- Title V provides suitable federal properties (land or buildings) categorized as unutilized, underutilized, excess or surplus for use to assist the homeless.
- *HUD reviews information submitted by the original federal agency owners of the properties and determines whether the properties appear “suitable” for use to assist homeless persons.*
- Properties are “as is”, leased without charge, from 1 year to 20 years or deeded to the organization.
- Properties can be used to provide services such as job training or child-care center, storage, emergency, transitional and/or permanent housing, and any other activity that clearly meets an identified need of the homeless.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

- Grants provided under HPRP offers a variety of short- and medium-term financial assistance to those who would otherwise become homeless, many due to sudden economic crisis.
- This can include short-term rental assistance (up to three months), medium-term rental assistance (up to 18 months), security deposits, utility deposits and/or utility payments, moving cost assistance, and hotel vouchers.
- Payments will not be made directly to households, but only to third parties, such as landlords or utility companies.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- CDBG funds can and are used to assist facilities assisting homeless persons directly, including paying for the costs of operations, as well as indirectly through the funding of facilities for abused and neglected children, battered spouses, and other vulnerable groups.
- Additionally, a variety of services are eligible uses of CDBG funds including mental health and substance abuse services and the provision of food and other services.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

- HOME can be used to acquire and/or develop transitional or permanent rental housing for homeless persons, including Group Homes and Single Room Occupancy units.
- Tenant-based rental assistance can help households who are homeless or who are threatened with becoming homeless because of high rent burdens.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program

- Provides capital advances to nonprofit organizations for the development of independent living projects and group homes for very low-income persons with disabilities who are at least 18 years old.
- Many residents come to Section 811 housing directly from institutions or from living with aged parents, so without the Section 811 program they would become homeless.



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Housing Choice Voucher Program

- The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program is the Federal Government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private rental market. Housing choice vouchers are administered locally public housing agencies (PHAs) who receive federal funds from HUD to administer the program.
- After a family is selected for the program and has located a housing unit that meets program requirements, a PHA pays a housing subsidy directly to the landlord on behalf of the participating family. The housing assistance payment provided on behalf of the family is equal to the difference between the family rent contribution (generally, 30 percent of adjusted family income) and the lesser of the PHA-determined payment standard or the gross rent for the unit.
- Additionally, a PHA has the discretion to establish local preferences for selecting applicants from its waiting list to participate in the voucher program. Homelessness is one of the preferences that a PHA may choose to adopt.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH)

- Participating VA medical centers (VAMCs) are selected based on factors such as the population of homeless veterans needing services in the area, the number of homeless veterans served by the homeless programs at each facility, geographic distribution and VA case management resources.
- All veterans served by HUD-VASH are homeless prior to program entry.
- Homeless veterans are screened by the VA medical facility and then referred to the partner PHA for the HCV eligibility determination and issuance of a voucher.
- Agreement of the veteran to participate in case management is a condition of receiving the rental assistance.

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- HUD does not collect data on the types of locations or facilities where the veterans have lived prior to participating in the program. VAMCs determine veterans' homeless status prior to program entry, and the McKinney-Vento definition of a homeless individual is used.
- PHAs must process applications for the HUD-VASH program only from veterans that are referred by a partnering VAMC; therefore, veterans are not placed on the PHA's normal HCV waiting list prior to the PHA's processing of their application.
- In addition, PHAs only screen HUD-VASH applicants for income eligibility and to make sure that the applicants are not registered under a state sex-offender registration program.
- By eliminating regular HCV rules on waiting lists and screening requirements, veterans' applications for HUD-VASH vouchers are processed much more quickly than those individuals and families that apply for the regular HCV program.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Public Housing Program

The Public Housing Program supports public housing by:

- (1) operating subsidies to help public housing agencies (PHAs) maintain and operate public housing projects, establish operating reserves, and offset operating deficits; and
- (2) annual contributions for assistance to finance capital improvements, development, and related management improvements in PHA- managed public housing projects.
- Only low-income households are eligible for public housing, with income targeting requirements determining the categories of low-income households receiving priorities.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

- Program provides states and localities with the resources and incentives to devise long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of low-income persons and their families living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS).
- HOPWA remains the only federal program solely dedicated to providing rental housing and other types of housing assistance and supportive services to this special needs population.
- In addition to promoting consistent participation in appropriate HIV treatment, HOPWA assistance may also address related challenges that add to the risks of homelessness, including substance abuse and mental health issues,



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, or Stalking Program Transitional Housing Assistance Program

- This grant program support programs that provide assistance to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related support services.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program

- Drug Court Discretionary Program grants are competitive, with three categories of funding available, including drug court implementation, single drug court service enhancement, and statewide drug court enhancement.
- Allowable uses of these funds are court services and offender services, including offender management and non-treatment recovery support services, which include: job training and placement, housing placement assistance, education, medical and mental health services, childcare and other family supportive services.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Second Chance Act Reentry Program

- **(Section 101) Adult and Juvenile Demonstration Grants** authorizes grants for adult and juvenile reentry demonstration projects. One of the performance outcomes for this section is “...increased housing opportunities.”
- The Second Chance Act sets the model for a comprehensive approach to reentry services. If the returning offender needs transitional or temporary housing, the SCA Section 101 funds can be used to fund transitional housing.
- If the returning offender needs longer term housing, the SCA funds can also be utilized to subsidize such services. The provision of housing is seen as a vital part of effective reentry and provides a stable base for the provision of other services such as substance abuse treatment, mental health counseling or family reunification services.



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program

- It is the only nationwide program exclusively focused on assisting homeless veterans reintegrate into the workforce. Funds are awarded through competitive grants. Eligible entities include state and local Workforce Investment Boards, for profit/commercial entities, public agencies, and non-profits, including faith-based and neighborhood partnerships.
- Veterans are provided with intensive case management, employment and training services, and critical linkages to supportive services within their communities. Job placement, training, job development, career counseling and resume preparation are among other services provided by grantees.



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- **Veterans' Workforce Investment Program**
- Program provides services to assist in reintegrating eligible veterans into meaningful employment within the labor force and to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing eligible veterans.
- Funds are awarded through competitive grants.
- Grantees include state and local Workforce Investment Boards, states and state agencies, local public agencies, and private non-profits, including faith-based and neighborhood partnerships.
- Grantees provide an array of services through a case management approach. The grants help veterans from targeted groups overcome employment barriers and ease their transition into unsubsidized jobs.
- Through this program, veterans receive skills assessments; individual job counseling; labor market information; classroom or on-the-job training; skills upgrading and retraining; and placement assistance and follow-up services.



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program

- Partnership between the Department of Labor and the Department of Veterans Affairs designed to develop and operate sites that support incarcerated veterans at risk of becoming homeless.
- Eligible grantees are State and Local Workforce Boards, local public agencies, for-profit/commercial entities, and non-profit organizations, including faith-based and neighborhood partnerships.
- This program was authorized in FY 2010 and 16 grants totaling \$4,000,000 were awarded. Funding is contained within the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program appropriation.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans

- The National Call Center for Homeless Veterans (NCCHV) was created in 2010 to ensure 24-hour assistance to Veterans experiencing homelessness, those at-risk of becoming homeless, and community organizations connecting them to local resources and locations to get help in times of crisis.
- This program allows those experiencing homelessness or those at risk to access VA resources (VA Medical Centers, transitional facilities, mental health services) in a timely manner while referring individuals in need to other community resources available.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program

- The primary mission of the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program (HCHV) is to connect Veterans experiencing homelessness to needed health care and social service programs via extensive outreach.
- HCHV outreach conducted by clinical teams at 132 VA Medical Centers, making it possible for Veterans to enter the network of VA-funded health care and social service programs with the end goal of eliminating homelessness.
- HCHV also provides residential treatment for mental health and substance abuse problems through contracts with community service providers, as well as long-term case management through the HCHV-Supported Housing

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Stand Downs

- Stand Downs are 1 to 3 day events providing health screenings, VA and Social Security benefits counseling, and referrals to a variety of other necessary services, such as housing, employment and substance abuse treatment.
- Stand Downs are collaborative events coordinated between local VA medical centers (VAMCs), other government agencies, and community agencies which serve homeless Veterans.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans Benefits Assistance Outreach Program

- Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinators (HVOCs) provide VA benefits access and information through outreach efforts to Veterans who are homeless and Veterans at-risk of homelessness including those involved with the justice system.
- They also work with VA health care professionals to assist Veterans who are experiencing homelessness and connect them to helpful resources such as emergency shelters as a first step to stable housing, while also working to ensure that all Veterans are utilizing the VA's health care system for primary and emergency care. The HVOCs are often the first source of assistance and referral to Veterans for resources in their local area.
- HVOCs are proactive in assisting justice-involved Veterans in their transition back to the community. They partner with VA's health care professionals to visit federal and state correctional facilities to work with both Veterans and prison staff ensuring that Veterans have a clear discharge plan in place, which includes a place to live for the first months of their transition and enrollment in all eligible benefit programs within the VA.
- Through effective outreach, HVOCs provide Veterans who are experiencing homelessness and justice-involved Veterans with valuable information and direct assistance and resources so Veterans do not experience homelessness.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans Justice Outreach Initiative

- The Veterans Justice Outreach Initiative limits the criminalization and unnecessary arrest of Veterans suffering from acute and persistent mental illness through a targeted outreach program including many experiencing homelessness. VA Medical Center teams work to ensure that eligible justice-involved
- Veterans either currently experiencing homeless or reentering communities from incarceration receive appropriate mental health and substance abuse services. This outreach initiative involves collaboration among VA Medical Center points of contact, local law enforcement, and treatment services to provide for the needs of Veterans helping to avoid subsequent arrests and involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Each VA medical center has a designated facility-based Veterans' Justice Outreach Specialist to provide outreach, assessment, and case management for justice-involved Veterans in local courts and jails, and liaison with local justice system partners.
- Veterans experiencing homelessness, those in frequent contact with the criminal justice system, and the reentering Veteran population are the primary beneficiaries of this program.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SURPLUS PROPERTY

- The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act authorizes the identification and use of underutilized and unutilized property for use to assist the homeless. This determination is made using the following process:
- GSA completes and forwards checklists to HUD on properties reported by federal agencies as excess to their need and not previously reviewed by HUD for suitability determination.
- HUD determines which properties are “suitable” for use as facilities to assist the homeless and advises GSA accordingly. These assets may consist of land and buildings in urban and rural areas and may be used for shelters, clinics, storage or administrative space.
- GSA determines if there is an alternative federal use for each “suitable” property. If none exists, GSA advises HUD that the “suitable” property is available for homeless purposes.
- HUD then publishes the properties in the Federal Register that are “suitable and available,” “suitable and unavailable,” and “unsuitable” for homeless use.
- GSA notifies homeless providers that have been identified by the National Coalition for the Homeless, State and local government units, entities that have expressed interest, and other organizations when “suitable and available” properties are published in the Federal Register. Homeless assistance providers interested in any of these properties must request an application from, and apply to HHS.
- HHS evaluates the homeless providers’ applications and if approved, requests that GSA assign the property to HHS for conveyance to the homeless provider. HHS then leases or deeds the property to the approved provider



SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- The Social Security Administration (SSA) provides monthly benefits to millions of Americans who are unable to work due to a disability.
- The Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) program is a social insurance program that pays benefits based on a worker's prior earnings. Dependents, such as spouses and children, of disabled workers may also receive benefits.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides basic support to needy individuals who are blind, disabled or who are aged 65 years or older and who have limited or no other income.



SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

- Over the years, SSA determined that the major impediments facing the homeless in obtaining benefits included their inability to keep appointments, the lack of medical records and difficulty keeping in contact.
- SSA allows an individual to appoint a representative to help him or her conduct business with SSA, such as providing assistance in filing an application for benefits, filing an appeal, and complying with SSA's requests relating to the application or appeals process.
- Once recognized by SSA, the appointed representative will receive copies of notices and handle matters before SSA on behalf of a homeless individual

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Compassionate Allowances

- The Compassionate Allowances process expedites claims for SSI/SSDI applicants whose medical conditions are so severe that they obviously meet the disability standards based on minimal objective medical information. There are currently 88 Compassionate Allowances conditions including cancers, brain disorders, and rare diseases affecting children.



SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Youth Transitioning out of Foster Care

- Disabled foster care youth represent a vulnerable population who face a higher risk of homelessness, increased health problems, substance abuse, and incarceration once foster care payments cease. It was critical to implement policy for disabled foster care youth to help prevent a break in income and ease their transition to independent living.



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

- The Postal Service and the National Association of Letter Carriers hold the largest one-day food drive in the nation on a yearly basis.
- In 2010, more than 77.1 million pounds of food were collected. It was the seventh consecutive year above 70 million pounds and brought the total for the drive's 18 years to over 1 billion pounds of food.
- The food is delivered to food banks, pantries and shelters that serve the communities where it is collected.



CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Senior Corps

- Connects individuals age 55 and over with the people and organizations that need them most as mentors, coaches, or companions or contribute their job skills and expertise to community projects and organizations.

Number of Homeless Persons Assisted

- In FY 2010, 121 Foster Grandparent projects engaged 873 volunteers to provide mentoring and support to 3,492 homeless children.
- In FY 2010, 227 RSVP projects engaged 1658 volunteers who served 331,540 hours to support homeless populations.



CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Learn and Serve America

- In 2010, approximately 290 out of Learn and Serve America's 1,600 service-learning projects focused on homeless issues.
- More than 115,000 students, faculty, and staff were involved in these activities, contributing more than 2 million hours of service and representing \$1,733,291 of federal support.



CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

AmeriCorps VISTA

- AmeriCorps VISTA, the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty, has a long history of supporting organizations to create or expand programs that address homelessness.
- Many VISTA volunteers help build the capacity of organizations that operate shelters, distribute food, mentor children, and provide outreach.



CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps

- AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) is a full-time, team-based residential program for men and women age 18–24. Members are assigned to one of five campuses, located in Denver, Colorado; Sacramento, California; Perry Point, Maryland; Vicksburg, Mississippi; and Vinton, Iowa.
- Each year, NCCC engages in short-term high impact service projects with organizations across the country, with missions related to expanding affordable housing opportunities and providing immediate aid to homeless Americans.



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